AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the first full paragraph on page 36, lines 3-19 to read as follows:

Crystallization Conditions. The chemicals used for the crystallization experiments were purchased from Merck and were of highest purity available. The sparse matrix kit was obtained from Hampton Research. Crystallization conditions for the protein were initially sought by using the sparse matrix approach (Jancarik, J. & Kim, S.-H. J. Appl. Crystallogr. 24, 409-411 (1991)) in hanging drop vapor diffusion set-ups in cell culture plates at room temperature. Under condition 28, (30% PEG8000, 0.2 M sodium-acetate, 0.1 M cacodylate buffer, pH 6.5) needles grew. They were subsequently reproduced and optimized using a finer grid search, different temperatures for the equilibration and testing of additives. Crystals were only obtained when the inhibitor bestatin was present in the crystallization set-ups. Using $YbCl_3$ as an additive and switching to liquid-liquid diffusion in capillaries, allowed plate-like crystals to grow. Thus, 5 µl 28% PEG8000, 0.1 [[mM]]M Na-acetate, 0.1 [[mM]]M imidazole buffer, pH 6.8, 5 mM YbCl3 is injected into the bottom of a melting point capillary and an equal volume of LTA_4 hydrolase (5 mg/ml) in 10 mM Tris-Cl, pH 8, supplemented with 1 mM bestatin, is layered on top. Finally, the capillary is closed and stored at 22° C. Crystals with an average size of 0.6 x 0.4 x 0.05 mm^3 appear in 3 to 4 weeks.